



Organisation of school time in Europe

Primary and secondary general education

2013/14 school year

Eurydice – Facts and Figures

*Education
and Training*

KEY POINTS

In most countries, the school year starts at the beginning of September

Despite some differences, countries across Europe show many similarities regarding the structure of the school year. In around half of European countries the school year officially starts on the first of September. In the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Norway and Iceland), it generally starts between mid- to end August. In Southern Europe, the starting date is usually in the second half of September (e.g. Greece, Portugal and Turkey).

The length of the summer holidays varies a lot across Europe

In Europe, the school year generally ends between the end of May and the second half of July. Mid-June is the time when the summer break begins in most countries. The length of the summer holidays varies significantly between countries: from five weeks in some cantons of Switzerland up to 13 weeks in Latvia, Italy and Turkey. The summer holidays are usually shorter in those countries where students have more frequent and longer holidays during the school year.

The distribution of holidays during the school year varies between countries with the exception of the Christmas break

In addition to the summer break, there are four other main periods of school holidays across Europe: the autumn holidays, Christmas and New Year's, winter/Carnival holidays as well the spring/Easter holidays. With the exception of the Christmas/New Year's holiday, other school breaks differ both in length and timing. As some of these holidays are related to flexible calendar dates (Carnival and Easter), their timing changes slightly from year to year. As well as these common holidays, all countries offer an additional one to ten days of holiday for public or religious occasions.

Regional and local variations exist within some countries

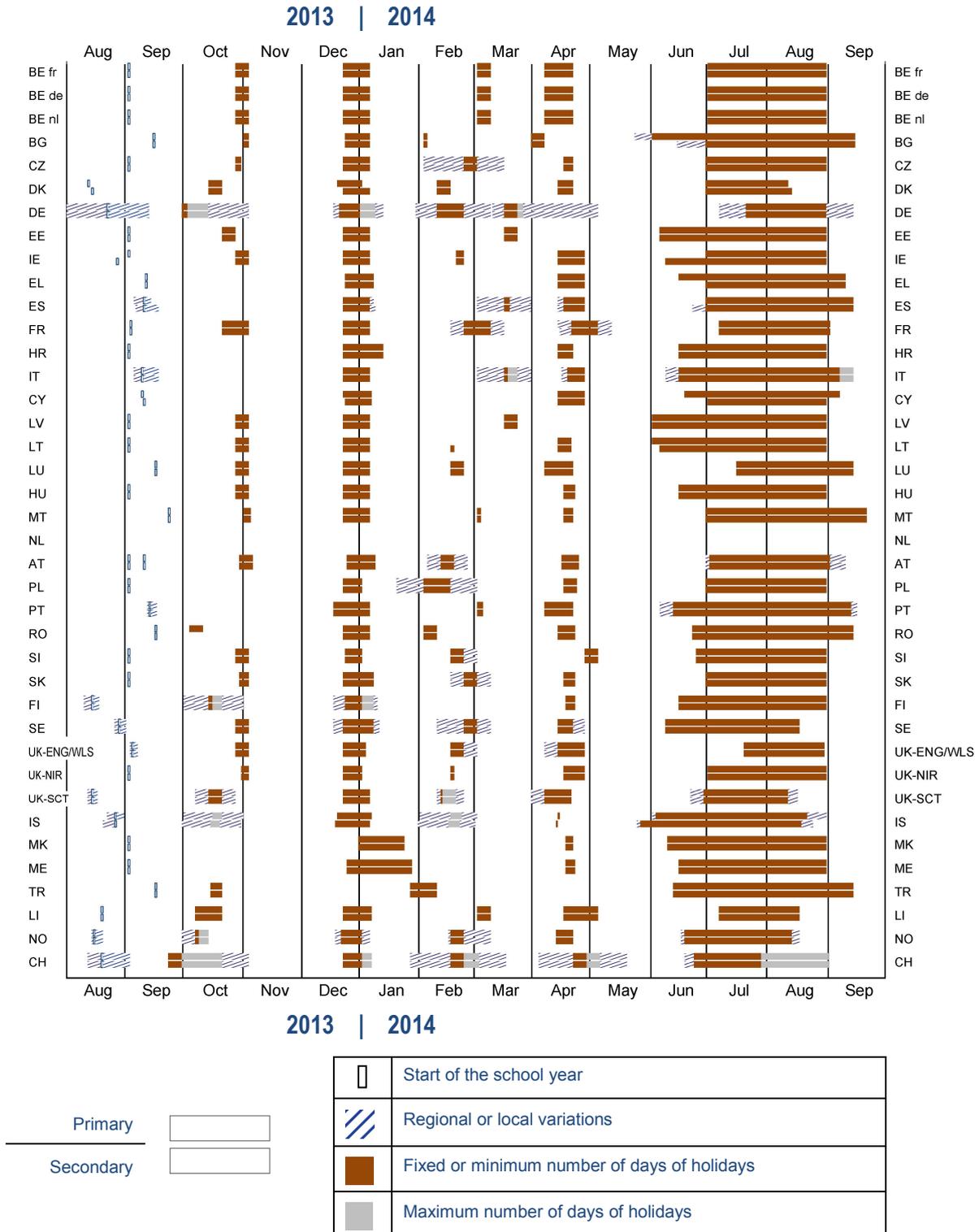
The periods and dates of school holidays may vary within a country. In some countries, such as Germany, Spain, Italy, Austria and Switzerland regional authorities make the decisions in this regard. In Norway and Sweden, the responsibility lies with the municipalities, while in Ireland and the United Kingdom (England and Wales) the school calendar is traditionally decided at school level. However, this freedom to determine school holiday periods may be limited. The number of days of teaching is generally fixed at central level.

In France, the central government fixes different dates for the winter (Carnival) and spring (Easter) holidays depending on the geographical area, while in Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, differences of this kind occur only in the winter (Carnival) holidays.

Same holiday patterns persist for primary and secondary education

The pattern of holidays over the school year is similar for both primary and secondary education. Slight differences occur in only a few countries. In Greece, Cyprus and Lithuania, the school year for students in secondary education counts more school days than in primary. The opposite is true in Ireland and Spain.

Figure : Length of the school year and distribution of holidays, general education, ISCED 1-3, 2013/14



AUSTRIA

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	2 September 2013: Burgenland, Niederösterreich, Wien 9 September 2013: Kärnten, Oberösterreich, Salzburg, Steiermark, Tirol, Vorarlberg	2 September 2013: Burgenland, Niederösterreich, Wien 9 September 2013: Kärnten, Oberösterreich, Salzburg, Steiermark, Tirol, Vorarlberg
End of students' school year	27 June 2014: Burgenland, Niederösterreich, Wien 4 July 2014: Kärnten, Oberösterreich, Salzburg, Steiermark, Tirol, Vorarlberg	27 June 2014: Burgenland, Niederösterreich, Wien 4 July 2014: Kärnten, Oberösterreich, Salzburg, Steiermark, Tirol, Vorarlberg
Autumn holidays	1 week 26 October – 3 November 2013 (Vorarlberg*)	1 week 26 October – 3 November 2013 (Vorarlberg*)
Christmas/New Year	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 6 January 2014	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 6 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	1 week 3 – 8 February 2014: Niederösterreich, Wien 10 – 15 February 2014: Burgenland, Kärnten, Salzburg, Tirol, Vorarlberg 17 – 22 February 2014: Oberösterreich, Steiermark	1 week 3 – 8 February 2014: Niederösterreich, Wien 10 – 15 February 2014: Burgenland, Kärnten, Salzburg, Tirol, Vorarlberg 17 – 22 February 2014: Oberösterreich, Steiermark
Spring/Easter	1 week 12 – 22 April 2014	1 week 12 – 22 April 2014
Third term	4 days 7 – 10 May 2014	4 days 7 – 10 May 2014
Summer	About 9 weeks 28 June – 30 August 2014: Burgenland, Niederösterreich, Wien 5 July – 6 September 2014: Kärnten, Oberösterreich, Salzburg, Steiermark, Tirol, Vorarlberg	About 9 weeks 28 June – 30 August 2014: Burgenland, Niederösterreich, Wien 5 July – 6 September 2014: Kärnten, Oberösterreich, Salzburg, Steiermark, Tirol, Vorarlberg
Public/religious holidays	26 October 2013 1 November 2013 2 November 2013 1 May 2014 29 May 2014 19 June 2014 1 extra religious holiday per province (<i>Land</i>)	26 October 2013 1 November 2013 2 November 2013 1 May 2014 29 May 2014 19 June 2014 1 extra religious holiday per province (<i>Land</i>)
Starting/End date of teachers' school year	The teachers' school year is the same as the pupils' school year	The teachers' school year is the same as the pupils' school year

*) The autumn holidays in Vorarlberg are decreed by the educational authority of this *Land*. To enable these holidays, Easter and third term holidays are shortened in this *Land*.

BELGIUM (FLEMISH COMMUNITY)

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14

	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	1 September 2013	1 September 2013
End of students' school year	30 June 2014	30 June 2014
Autumn holidays	1 week 28 October – 3 November 2013	1 week 28 October – 3 November 2013
Christmas/New Year holidays	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 5 January 2014	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 5 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	1 week 3 – 9 March 2014	1 week 3 – 9 March 2014
Spring/Easter	2 weeks 7 – 20 April 2014	2 weeks 7 – 20 April 2014
Third term	Between Easter holidays and Summer holidays	Between Easter holidays and Summer holidays
Summer	9 weeks 1 July – 31 August 2014	9 weeks 1 July – 31 August 2014
Public holidays (national/religious/occasional)	11 November 2013 (Armistice Day) 21 April 2014 (Easter Monday) 1 May 2014 (Labour Day) 29 – 30 May 2014 (Ascension Day) 9 June 2014 (Whit Monday) + 4 days to be decided by the school	11 November 2013 (Armistice Day) 21 April 2014 (Easter Monday) 1 May 2014 (Labour Day) 29 – 30 May 2014 (Ascension Day) 9 June 2014 (Whit Monday) + 4 days to be decided by the school
Starting date of teachers' school year	1 September	1 September
End of teachers' school year	30 June 2014	30 June 2014

Source: Eurydice.

BELGIUM (FRENCH COMMUNITY)

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of students' school year	30 June 2014	30 June 2014
Autumn holidays	1 week 28 October – 1 November 2013	1 week 28 October – 1 November 2013
Christmas/New Year	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 3 January 2014	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 3 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	1 week 3 – 7 March 2014	1 week 3 – 7 March 2014
Spring/Easter	2 weeks 7 – 18 April 2014	2 weeks 7 – 18 April 2014
Third term	–	–
Summer	9 weeks 1 July – 31 August 2014	9 weeks 1 July – 31 August 2014
Public/religious holidays	5 days: 27 September 2013 11 November 2013 21 April 2014 1 May 2014 29 May 2014 9 June 2014	5 days: 27 September 2013 11 November 2013 21 April 2014 1 May 2014 29 May 2014 9 June 2014
Starting date of teachers' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of teachers' school year	30 June 2014	30 June 2014

Source: Eurydice

BELGIUM (GERMAN-SPEAKING COMMUNITY)

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of students' school year	30 June 2013	30 June 2013
Autumn holidays	1 week 28 October – 1 November 2013	1 week 28 October – 1 November 2013
Christmas/New Year	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 3 January 2014	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 3 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	1 week 3 – 7 March 2014	1 week 3 – 7 March 2014
Spring/Easter	2 weeks 7 – 18 April 2014	2 weeks 7 – 18 April 2014
Third term	–	–
Summer	9 weeks 1 July – 31 August 2013	9 weeks 1 July – 31 August 2013
Public/religious holidays	11 November 2013 15 November 2013 1 May 2014 29 May 2014 9 June 2014	11 November 2013 15 November 2013 1 May 2014 29 May 2014 9 June 2014
Starting date of teachers' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of teachers' school year	30 June 2014	30 June 2014

Additional notes:

- During the last working days of August, secondary education teachers may be consigned to conduct exams of a second chance.
- A school year has a minimum of 180 and a maximum of 184 days of schooldays.
- As the 1 November is a religious holiday (*Allerheiligen* – All Saints' Day) and at the same time autumn vacation, it is left to the school to choose a compensation day.

BULGARIA

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	15 September 2013 (official date)	15 September 2013 (official date)
End of students' school year	Grade I: 22 May 2014 Grade II – IV: 30 May 2014 Grade V – VIII: 13 June 2014 Grade VIII*: 30 June 2014	Grade VIII*: 30 June 2014 Grade IX, X, XI: 30 June 2014 Grade XII: 15 May 2014
Autumn holidays	1-3 November 2013	1-3 November 2013
Christmas/New Year	24 December 2013 – 5 January 2014	24 December 2013 – 5 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	1-4 February 2014	1-4 February 2014
Spring/Easter	29 March – 6 April 2014	29 March – 6 April 2014 (until Grade XI) 29 March – 1 April 2014 (Grade XII)
Summer	Grade I: 24 May 2014 – 15 September 2015 Grade II – IV: 31 May – 15 September 2014 Grade V – VIII: 15 June – 15 September 2014 Grade VIII*: 30 June – 15 September 2014	Grade VIII*: 30 June – 15 September 2014 Grade IX – XI: 30 June – 15 September 2014
Public/religious holidays	22 September 2013 24 December 2013 3 March 2014 6 May 2014 24-25 May 2014	22 September 2013 24 December 2013 3 March 2014 6 May 2014 24-25 May 2014
Other dates	21 May 2014 State Graduation Exam in Bulgarian Language and Literature and National external assessment after VII grade in Bulgarian Language and Literature 23 May 2014 Second State Graduation Exam and National external assessment after VII grade in Mathematics	21 May 2014 State Graduation Exam in Bulgarian Language and Literature and National external assessment after VII grade in Bulgarian Language and Literature 23 May 2014 Second State Graduation Exam and National external assessment after VII grade in Mathematics
Starting date of teachers' school year	See Additional Notes	See Additional Notes
End of teachers' school year	See Additional Notes	See Additional Notes

Source: Eurydice

BULGARIA (CONTINUED)

Additional notes:

Grade VIII* (18 study weeks) is made up of students who have been admitted, after completed VII grade, to secondary schools after successfully passing admission exams. During this year they take intensive foreign language classes, the number of which prevails significantly in comparison with the number of classes assigned to the rest of the studied at this school level, subjects.

Teachers' school year: The length of the teachers' school year is defined at school level. The school head is responsible for setting and drawing up of the school's timetable. The most common situation is when the teachers, on employment contract, are required to be present and at disposal at school at the beginning of September so that they can get prepared well in advance and deal with the school documentation for the new school year.

The end of the teachers' school year is also determined at school level, if the teachers are needed to be at school in order to help, complete or close the school documentation, or if they are involved in other out-of-class activities, school projects, initiatives, etc., they usually are supposed to stay extra days after the beginning of the summer holiday period for pupils.

CROATIA

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year	
	Primary and general secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	2 September 2013
End of students' school year	13 June 2014
Winter holidays	23 December 2013 – 10 January 2014
Spring holidays	14 – 21 April 2014
Summer holidays	16 June – 30 August 2014
Public/religious holidays	8 October 2013 (Independence Day) 1 November 2013 (All Saints' Day) 1 May 2014 (International Labour Day) 16 May 2014 (Corpus Christi)
Starting date of teachers' school year	19 August 2013
End of teachers' school year	11 July 2014

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

Starting from the school year 2010/11, counties (regional administrative units of Croatia, there are 21 of them) are allowed to request some modifications of the school calendar for the coming school year (regarding the date of the beginning of the school year and the duration of the winter break) which then applies at the County level.

CYPRUS

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year*	9 September 2013	10 September 2013
End of students' school year*	18 June 2014	(see additional notes)
Christmas/New Year	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 6 January 2014	2 weeks 24 December 2013 – 6 January 2014
Spring/Easter	2 weeks 14 – 27 April 2014	2 weeks 14 – 27 April 2014
Summer	11 weeks 19 June 2014 – 5 September 2014	9 weeks 1 July – 31 August 2014
Public/religious holidays	1 October 2013 28 October 2013 13 November 2013 30 January 2014 3 March 2014 25 March 2014 1 April 2014 1 May 2014 29 May 2014 9 June 2014 11 June 2014	1 October 2013 28 October 2013 13 November 2013 30 January 2014 3 March 2014 25 March 2014 1 April 2014 1 May 2014 9 June 2014 11 June 2014
Starting date of teachers' school year**	2 September 2013	1 September 2013
End of teachers' school year**	20 June 2014	30 June 2014

Source: Eurydice.

Additional notes

*Secondary education

Classes may begin on any day during the first ten days of September. The exact date in each year is defined by the Minister of Education and Culture. In lower secondary education classes, the end of the school year may be on any day during the first seven days of June, in upper secondary education during the last ten days of May. The exact date is also defined by the Minister.

**Teachers

In general secondary education, the end of the school year is at the end of June after exams, correction of papers, result announcements. The official teachers' school year is longer than student's school year in both primary and secondary education as it includes registration days, sorting out of schools and classes and exam periods. In primary and secondary general education according to the law, the official school year is from the 1 September 2013 until 31 August 2014. Teachers, however, need to be at school from 2 September 2013 until 20 June 2014 for primary education.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of students' school year	27 June 2014	27 June 2014
Autumn holidays	29-30 October 2013	29-30 October 2013
Christmas/New Year	21 December 2013 – 5 January 2014	21 December 2013 – 5 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	31 January 2014	31 January 2014
Spring/Easter	1 week between 3 February and 16 March 2014 17 – 21 April 2014	1 week between 3 February and 16 March 2014 17 – 21 April 2014
Third term	–	–
Summer	28 June – 31 August 2014	28 June – 31 August 2014
Public/religious holidays	28 September 2013 28 October 2013 17 November 2013 1 May 2014 8 May 2014	28 September 2013 28 October 2013 17 November 2013 1 May 2014 8 May 2014
Starting date of teachers' school year	Not specified	Not specified
End of teachers' school year	Not specified	Not specified

SPRING HOLIDAYS IN THE REGIONS	
3 – 9 February 2014	Mladá Boleslav, Příbram, Tábor, Prachatice, Strakonice, Ústí nad Labem, Chomutov, Most, Jičín, Rychnov nad Kněžnou, Olomouc, Šumperk, Opava, Jeseník
10 – 16 February 2014	Benešov, Beroun, Rokycany, České Budějovice, Český Krumlov, Klatovy, Trutnov, Pardubice, Chrudim, Svitavy, Ústí nad Orlicí, Ostrava-město
17 – 23 February 2014	Praha 1 - 5, Blansko, Brno-město, Brno-venkov, Břeclav, Hodonín, Vyškov, Znojmo, Domažlice, Tachov, Louny, Prostějov, Karviná
24 February – 2 March 2014	Praha 6 - 10, Cheb, Karlovy Vary, Sokolov, Nymburk, Jindřichův Hradec, Litoměřice, Děčín, Přešov, Frýdek-Místek
3 – 9 March 2014	Kroměříž, Uherské Hradiště, Vsetín, Zlín, Praha-východ, Praha-západ, Mělník, Rakovník, Plzeň-město, Plzeň-sever, Plzeň-jih, Hradec Králové, Teplice, Nový Jičín
10 – 16 March 2014	Česká Lípa, Jablonec nad Nisou, Liberec, Semily, Havlíčkův Brod, Jihlava, Pelhřimov, Třebíč, Žďár nad Sázavou, Kladno, Kolín, Kutná Hora, Písek, Náchod, Bruntál

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

According to the Labour Code, the holiday for **teachers** at primary or secondary level is 8 weeks each calendar year. They take it primarily in the time of school holidays.

DENMARK

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary and lower secondary education (<i>Folkeskole</i>)	General secondary education (<i>Gymnasium</i>)
Starting date of students' school year	12 August 2013	14 August 2013
End of students' school year	28 June 2014	28 June 2014
Autumn holidays	14 – 20 October 2013	14 – 20 October 2013
Christmas/New Year	20 December 2013 – 1 January 2014	21 December 2013 – 5 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	10 – 16 February 2014	10 – 16 February 2014
Spring/Easter	14 – 21 April 2014	14 – 21 April 2014
Summer	Starting on 28 June 2014	Starting on 28 June 2014
Public/religious holidays	16 May 2014 29 May 2014 5 June 2014 9 June 2014	16 May 2014 29 May 2014 9 June 2014
Starting date of teachers' school year	Not determined at central level – differs at the various schools / institutions. In general the teachers start a few days before the pupils/students.	
End of teachers' school year	Not determined at central level. Usually the teachers' school year follows that of the pupils/students.	

Source: Eurydice.

Additional notes:

The abovementioned dates for the *Folkeskole* are a sample from the municipality of Allerød ⁽¹⁾, as the dates vary slightly on a national scale. For instance, the winter/carnival holiday depends on the municipality which usually decides whether the holiday is in week 7 or 8. The dates for upper secondary education are taken from Frederiksberg Gymnasium ⁽²⁾.

Folkeskole, schools offering comprehensive primary and lower secondary education, are free to decide on the number of holidays and their distribution, given that they offer a minimum of 200 school days each year. The Ministry of Education determines the last day of the school year, which is the case for both primary, lower secondary and general upper secondary education. In addition, the Ministry may also issue guidelines regarding the distribution of holidays.

The Constitution Day (*Grundlovsdag*) is not a public holiday. However, some schools are closed on this day while others are open.

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.ravnsholtskolen.skoleintra.dk/Infoweb/Designskabelon8/Rammeside.asp?Action=&Side=&Klasse=&Id=&Startside=&ForumID=>
⁽²⁾ <http://www.frberg-gym.dk/index.php/information/ferieplan>

ESTONIA

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	1 September 2013	1 September 2013
End of students' school year	31 August 2014	31 August 2014
Autumn holidays	1 week 19 – 27 October 2013	1 week 19 – 27 October 2013
Christmas/New Year	2 weeks 21 December 2013 – 5 January 2014	2 weeks 21 December 2013 – 6 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	–	–
Spring/Easter	1 week 15 – 23 March 2014	1 week 15 – 23 March 2014
Third term	–	–
Summer	12.5 weeks 6 June – 31 August 2014	12.5 weeks 6 June – 31 August 2014
Public/religious holidays	24 February 2014 (Independence Day) 18 April 2014 (Good Friday) 1 May 2014 (Spring Day (May Day))	24 February 2014 (Independence Day) 18 April 2014 (Good Friday) 1 May 2014 (Spring Day (May Day))
Starting date of teachers' school year	The beginning and the end of a teacher's school year depend on the individual school and teacher. According to the legislation, teachers have 56 days (8 weeks) of vacation. Generally, they go on vacation in the middle of June and are back in the middle of August.	
End of teachers' school year		

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

The Basic Schools and Upper Secondary Schools Act stipulates that an academic year shall start on 1 September and a study period shall include not less than 175 days of study (35 weeks). School holidays (and accordingly the end of the school year) are determined by a regulation of the Minister of Education for every school year.

FINLAND

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	Between 10 and 17 August 2013	Between 10 and 17 August 2013
End of students' school year	1 June 2013	1 June 2013
Autumn holidays	2-7 days in October 2013	2-7 days in October 2013
Christmas/New Year	1-2 weeks between 18 December 2013 and 9 January 2014	1-2 weeks between 18 December 2013 and 9 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	1 week between 17 February and 13 March 2014	1 week between 17 February and 13 March 2014
Spring/Easter	4 days between 18 and 21 April 2014	4 days between 18 and 21 April 2014
Third term	-	-
Summer	10-11 weeks between 1 June to mid-August 2013	10-11 weeks between 1 June to mid-August 2013
Public/religious holidays	6 January 2014 (Epiphany) 9 May 2013 (Ascension day)	6 January 2014 (Epiphany) 9 May 2013 (Ascension day)
Starting date of teachers' school year	Between 10 and 17 August 2013 ⁽¹⁾	Between 10 and 17 August 2013 ⁽¹⁾
End of teachers' school year	1 June 2013	1 June 2013

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

Independence day, Epiphany and 1 May are deducted from the total number of school days (190 days) if they are on any weekday other than Saturday. In the school year 2012/13, the number of school days will consequently be 188.

⁽¹⁾ There are no exact starting and ending dates of teachers' school year because their duties are regulated according to the collective agreement for teachers. In the agreement, the parties have agreed that the teachers have a calculatory holiday, which begins in mid-June and the length of holiday depends mainly on years in occupation. In practice, teachers' holidays coincide with the pupils' holidays. However, teachers have their planning and INSET obligations, which they have to do during both during the school year and outside the school year.

FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of students' school year	10 June 2014	10 June 2014
Christmas / New Year / Winter	31 December 2013 – 23 January 2014	31 December 2013 – 23 January 2014
Spring / Easter	18 – 21 April 2014	18 – 21 April 2014
Third term (additional classes for low achievers)	11 – 18 June 2014	11 – 18 June 2014
Summer	Starts on 11 June 2014	Starts on 11 June 2014
Public holidays (national/religious/occasional)	9 September 2013 11 October 2013 23 October 2013 9 December 2013 1 May 2014 24 May 2014	9 September 2013 11 October 2013 23 October 2013 9 December 2013 1 May 2014 24 May 2014
Starting date of teachers' school year	15 August 2013	15 August 2013
End of teachers' school year	10 July 2014	10 July 2013

Source: Eurydice.

FRANCE

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	3 September 2013	3 September 2013
End of students' school year	5 July 2014	5 July 2014
Autumn holidays	2 weeks 19 October – 3 November 2013	2 weeks 19 October – 3 November 2013
Christmas/New Year	2 weeks 21 December 2013 – 5 January 2014	2 weeks 21 December 2013 – 5 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	2 weeks 1 – 17 March 2014 (zone A) 22 February – 9 March 2014 (zone B) 15 February – 2 March 2014 (zone C)	2 weeks 1 – 17 March 2014 (zone A) 22 February – 9 March 2014 (zone B) 15 February – 2 March 2014 (zone C)
Spring/Easter	2 weeks 26 April – 11 May 2014 (zone A) 19 April – 4 May 2014 (zone B) 12 – 27 April 2014 (zone C)	2 weeks 26 April – 11 May 2014 (zone A) 19 April – 4 May 2014 (zone B) 12 – 27 April 2014 (zone C)
Summer	9 weeks 5 July – September 2014 (date not set yet)	9 weeks 5 July – September 2014 (date not set yet)
Public/religious holidays	The following dates are regarded as public holidays by all institutions: 1 November 2013 11 November 2013 21 April 2014 1 May 2014 8 May 2014 29 May 2014 9 June 2014	The following dates are regarded as public holidays by all institutions: 1 November 2013 11 November 2013 21 April 2014 1 May 2014 8 May 2014 29 May 2014 9 June 2014
Starting date of teachers' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of teachers' school year	5 July 2014	5 July 2014

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

Zone A: Caen, Clermont-Ferrand, Grenoble, Lyon, Montpellier, Nancy-Metz, Nantes, Rennes, Toulouse

Zone B: Aix-Marseille, Amiens, Besançon, Dijon, Lille, Limoges, Nice, Orléans-Tours, Poitiers, Reims, Rouen, Strasbourg

Zone C: Bordeaux, Créteil, Paris, Versailles

GERMANY

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year

Starting date of students' school year	1 August 2013 begin of official school year (for details see table I)
End of students' school year	31 July 2014 end of official school year (for details see table I)
Autumn holidays	3 to 13 days staggered between 30 September and 2 November 2013 (for details see table II)
Christmas/New Year	11 to 18 days staggered between 18 December 2013 and 11 January 2014 (for details see table II)
Winter/Carnival	0 to 12 days staggered between 30 January and 8 March 2014 (for details see table II)
Spring/Easter	6 to 17 days staggered between 3 March and 2 May 2014 (for details see table II)
Third term	0 to 11 days staggered between 28 April and 21 June 2014 (for details see table II)
Summer	6 weeks staggered between 7 July and 13 September 2014 (for details see table I)
Public/religious holidays	Up to 10 days, depending on the <i>Land</i>
Starting date of teachers' school year	1 August 2013 (official date)
End of teachers' school year	31 July 2014 (official date)

Source: Eurydice

TABLE I: Specification for starting/end of students' school year and summer holidays

	Beginning of students' school year 2013/14	End of students' school year 2013/14	Summer holidays 2014
Hamburg	1 August 2013	9 June 2014	10 July – 20 August
Berlin	3 August 2013	9 July 2014	10 July – 22 August
Brandenburg	5 August 2013	9 July 2014	10 July – 23 August
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern/ Schleswig-Holstein	5 August 2013	12 July 2014	14 July – 23 August
Bremen / Niedersachsen	8 August 2013	23 July 2014	24 July – 3 September
Rheinland-Pfalz / Saarland / Hessen	17 August 2013	26 July 2014	28 July – 5 September
Sachsen / Thüringen	24 August 2013	19 July 2014	21 July – 29 August
Sachsen-Anhalt	29 August 2013	19 July 2014	21 July – 3 September
Nordrhein-Westfalen	4 September 2013	5 July 2014	7 July – 19 August
Baden-Württemberg	9 September 2013	30 July 2014	31 July – 13 September
Bayern	12 September 2013	29 July 2014	30 July – 15 September

GERMANY (CONTINUED)

TABLE II: Specification of shorter holiday periods

Land	Autumn 2013	Christmas /New Year 2013/14	Winter 2014	Spring / Easter 2014	3 rd term 2014
Baden-Württemberg	28-30 October	23 Dec.-4 Jan.	-	14-25 April	10 June-21 June
Bayern	28 Oct.-31 Nov.	23 Dec.-4 Jan.	-	14-26 April	10 June-21 June
Berlin	30 Sept.-12 Oct.	23 Dec.-3 Jan.	3-8 February	14-26 April	2 May 30 May
Brandenburg	30 Sept.- 12 Oct. 1 Nov.	23 Dec.-3 Jan.	3-8 February	16-26 April	2 May 30 May
Bremen	4-18 October.	23 Dec.-3 Jan.	30-31 January	3-22 April	10 June
Hamburg	30 Sept.-11 Oct.	19 Dec.-3 Jan.	31 January	3-14 March	28 April-2 May 30 May
Hessen	14-26 October	23 Dec.-11 Jan.	-	14-26 April	-
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	14-19 October	23 Dec.-3 Jan.	3-15 February	14-23 April	6 June-10 June
Niedersachsen	4-18 October	23 Dec.-3 Jan.	30-31 January	3-22 April	2 May 30 May 10 June
Nordrhein-Westfalen	21 Oct.-2 Nov.	23 Dec.-7 Jan.	-	14-26 April	10 June
Rheinland-Pfalz	4-18 October	23 Dec.-7 Jan.	-	11-25 April	30 May 20 June
Saarland	21 Oct.-2 Nov.	20 Dec.-4 Jan.	3-8 March	14-26 April	-
Sachsen	21 Oct.-1 Nov.	21 Dec.-3 Jan.	17 Febr.-1 March	18-26 April	30 May
Sachsen-Anhalt	21 Oct.-25 Nov.	18 Dec.-3 Jan.	1-7 February	14-19 April	30 May-7 June
Schleswig-Holstein	4-18 October	23 Dec.-6 Jan.	-	16 April-2 May	30 May
Thüringen	21 Oct.-2 Nov.	23 Dec.-4 Jan.	17-22 February	19 April-2 May	30 May

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

In accordance with the *Hamburg Agreement* between the *Länder* on harmonisation in the school system, the school year begins on 1 August and ends on 31 July. The actual beginning and end depend on the dates of the summer holidays which vary from one year to the other.

GREECE

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	11 September 2013	11 September 2013
End of students' school year	13 June 2014	The beginning of the exam period is set within the 2nd fortnight of May and the end of the exam period is set within the last week of June.
Autumn holidays	–	–
Christmas/New Year	2 weeks 24 December 2013 – 7 January 2014	2 weeks 24 December 2013 – 7 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	–	–
Spring/Easter	2 weeks 14 – 27 April 2014	2 weeks 14 – 27 April 2014
Third term	–	–
Summer	Around 12 weeks 16 June – 10 September 2014	Around 10 weeks After the end of the exam period until 10 September 2014
National/religious holidays	28 October 2013 17 November 2013 30 January 2014 3 March 2014 25 March 2014 1 May 2014 9 June 2014 and some regional holidays	28 October 2013 17 November 2013 30 January 2014 3 March 2014 25 March 2014 1 May 2014 9 June 2014 and some regional holidays
Starting date of teachers' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of teachers' school year	20 June 2014	30 June 2014

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

Official School Year: 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014

Didactic Year: Concerning primary education, according to [Presidential Decree 200/1998](#) (Government Gazette 161/issue A/13-7-1998) and [Presidential Decree 201/1998](#) (Government Gazette 161/issue A/13-7-1998), the didactic year lasts from 1st September until 21st June of the following year.

Regarding secondary education, according to [Presidential Decree 201/1998](#) (Government Gazette 68/issue A/20-5-1987), the didactic year lasts from 1st September until 30th June of the following year.

HUNGARY

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary and lower secondary education	General upper secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of students' school year	13 June 2014	13 June 2014 (30 April 2014 in the final upper secondary grade)
Autumn holidays	28 October – 1 November 2013	28 October – 1 November 2013
Christmas/New Year holidays	23 December 2013 – 3 January 2014	23 December 2013 – 3 January 2014
Spring/Easter holidays	17 – 22 April 2014	17 – 22 April 2014
Summer holidays	11 weeks 16 June – 31 August 2014	11 weeks 16 June – 31 August 2014
Public/religious holidays	23 October 2013 15 March 2014 (Revolution Day) 1 May 2014 (Labour Day) 9 June 2014 (Whit Monday)	23 October 2013 15 March 2014 (Revolution Day) 1 May 2014 (Labour Day) 9 June 2014 (Whit Monday)
Starting date of teachers' school year	Institutional autonomy takes into account the concerning legal provision*	Institutional autonomy takes into account the concerning legal provision*
End of teachers' school year	Institutional autonomy takes into account the concerning legal provision*	Institutional autonomy takes into account the concerning legal provision*

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

According to the Act on Public Education, the minister responsible for education specifies the schedule of the academic year in a ministerial decree. The Act stipulates that the school year starts on the first working day of September every year and finishes on the last working day prior to 16 June.

Thus schools have no autonomy in changing the first and last day of the school year but they have some autonomy in giving extra holidays before or after public holidays or school holidays for practical reasons (e.g. if a public holiday falls on a Thursday, the school may give Friday as holiday) if they provide teaching on a regular resting day (weekend) instead.

In addition to compulsory school days (179-180 days in 2013/14), schools also have five (in single structure education) or six (in upper-secondary education) non-teaching days for educational purposes.

Holidays at schools providing minority education may differ from the above described school holidays to celebrate national traditions.

* Act No. XXXIII. of 1992 on the legal status of public servants and the Government Decree No. 138/1992 stipulate that the holidays of teachers primarily have to be given during the summer holiday. If not all days can be taken during that, the rest has to be provided during the autumn, winter or spring holidays. (For teachers the autumn, winter and spring holidays are regarded as workdays without teaching).

ICELAND

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary and lower secondary education	General upper secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	Between 22 and 30 August 2013	Between 20 and 26 August 2013
End of students' school year	Between 2.-7 June 2014	Between 26 and 30 May 2014
Autumn holidays	0-3 days in October 2013	0-3 days in October 2013
Christmas/New Year	2 weeks 20 December 2013 – 6 January 2014	2 weeks 20 December 2013 – 6 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	0-5 days in February 2014	0-5 days in February 2013
Spring/Easter	9 days 12 – 21 April 2014	9 days 12 – 21 April 2014
Third term	–	–
Summer	11 weeks Between 7 June and 21 August 2014	12 weeks Between 26 May and 23 August 2014
Public/religious holidays	24 April 2014 1 May 2014 29 May 2014	24 April 2014 1 May 2014 29 May 2014
Starting date of teachers' school year	Between 9 and 21 August 2013	Between 20 and 22 August 2013
End of teachers' school year	Between 5 and 11 June 2014	Between 28 May and 1 June 2014

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

According to teachers wage contracts compulsory school teachers shall work in schools 4 days before the beginning of the school year and 4 days after the formal end of the school year. Upper secondary school teachers have a total of 4 working days before the beginning and/or the end of the school year.

IRELAND

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	First week of September 2013 ⁽¹⁾	Circa 27 August 2013
End of students' school year	End of June 2014 ⁽²⁾	End of State Examinations in June 2014
Autumn holidays	1 week 28 October – 1 November 2013	1 week 28 October – 1 November 2013
Christmas/New Year	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 3 January 2014	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 3 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	2 days 20-21 February 2014 ⁽³⁾	1 week 17 – 21 February 2014
Spring/Easter	2 weeks 14 – 25 April 2014	2 weeks 14 – 25 April 2014
Third term	–	–
Summer	About 9 weeks End of June until week of 1 September 2014	About 12 weeks June, July and most of August 2014
Public/religious holidays	17 March 2014 5 May 2014 2 June 2014 and some religious holidays	17 March 2014 5 May 2014 2 June 2014 and some religious holidays
Starting date of teachers' school year	1 September 2013	1 September 2013
End of teachers' school year	31 August 2014	31 August 2014

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

Primary Education

- ⁽¹⁾ In order to meet the overall requirement of 183 days at primary level, the school year will normally commence in the week that the 1st September falls. The exact date is determined locally at Board of Management level.
- ⁽²⁾ School may use their own discretion to determine the precise ending of the school year in June, providing it has met the overall requirement of 183 days.
- ⁽³⁾ Primary school may use 3 discretionary days to extend their Winter/Carnival break to an alternative option of a 5 day break.

Circular 0034/2011 sets out the standardised school breaks at primary and post-primary level for the school years 2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14.

IRELAND (CONTINUED)

The arrangements for standardised closure at primary level (Circular 0034/2011) are agreed without prejudice to closure on specific days, within the overall requirement of 183 days at primary level, dictated by religious observance that is required in schools under patronage of different denominations or faiths. In the absence of an adequate number of discretionary days a school authority may choose to utilise a religious observation day for non-tuition purpose when planning the school year.

The existing arrangements for school breaks may provide some limited flexibility to schools on certain other days outside of the defined periods. The scheduling of such days must not be used to extend or modify the period set out above in respect of mid-term, Christmas and Easter breaks save where religious observance requirements of a school under a particular patronage makes this necessary.

It was not a requirement of this agreement that the commencement or end of the school year either at primary or post primary level should be standardised.

General Secondary

In accordance with Circular M29/95, the minimum number of teaching days per post-primary school will be 167. In addition, in accordance with Circular 0034/2011, holiday periods during the school year have been standardised, i.e. midterm breaks, Christmas and Easter holidays. Traditionally, formal instruction ends in post-primary schools on the Friday preceding the June bank holiday weekend. State examinations normally commence the following Wednesday. In order for schools to meet their requirement to be open for 167 days during 2013/14 school year, it is expected that post-primary schools will be open circa 27 August 2013.

The above holidays are standardised in accordance with Circular 0034/2011. The school year at post-primary level is very tight and does not allow for any additional holidays, as schools must comply with the minimum number of 167 days. In fact, in recent years, since the standardised school calendar, many schools which would have traditionally opened on 1 September are now opening in late August in order to meet their full complement of days. There is more flexibility at primary school level, as they are not restricted by the end of year State exams.

ITALY

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	Between 5 and 17 September 2013	Between 5 and 17 September 2013
End of students' school year	Between 7 and 14 June 2014	Between 7 and 14 June 2014
Autumn holidays	–	–
Christmas/New Year	11 to 14 days Between 21/24 December 2013 and 4 January 2014	11 to 14 days Between 21/24 December 2013 and 4 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	1 to 5 days in March	1 to 5 days in March
Spring/Easter	2 to 9 days Between 16/18 April and 19/26 April 2014, depending on the regions	2 to 9 days Between 16/18 April and 19/26 April 2014, depending on the regions
Third term	–	–
Summer	12 – 13 weeks Between June and September 2014	12 – 13 weeks Between June and September 2014
Public/religious holidays	1 November 2013 25 April 2014 1 May 2014 2 June 2014 (+ Saints' days, depending on the regions)	1 November 2013 25 April 2014 1 May 2014 2 June 2014 (+ Saints' days, depending on the regions)
Starting date of teachers' school year	1 September 2013	1 September 2013
End of teachers' school year	31 August 2014	31 August 2014

Source: Eurydice

ITALY (CONTINUED)

Specification of terms for the beginning and the end of the school year 2013/14		
Primary and general secondary education		
	Beginning 2013	End 2014
Abruzzo	16 September	14 June
Alto Adige (Bolzano)	5 September	13 June (5-day weeks) 14 June (6-day weeks)
Basilicata	12 September	11 June
Calabria	16 September	11 June
Campania	16 September	7 June
Emilia-Romagna	16 September	7 June
Friuli-Venezia Giulia	12 September	11 June
Lazio	11 September	7 June
Liguria	16 September	11 June
Lombardia	12 September	7 June
Marche	12 September	7 June
Molise	10 September	11 June
Piemonte	10 September	7 June
Puglia	17 September	9 June
Sardegna	16 September	10 June
Sicilia	16 September	7 June
Toscana	11 September	7 June
Trentino (Trento)	11 September	11 June
Umbria	11 September	7 June
Valle d'Aosta	12 September	14 June
Veneto	12 September	7 June

Additional notes:

Schools can adjust the school calendar, established by the Regions, to the POF's requirements (the POF is the basic document of the cultural and planning identity of each school. It defines the curricular, extra-curricular, educational and organisational projects of each school). Schools can organise in a flexible way the overall and single-subject timetable, provided that lessons spread over a minimum of five days per week and that the prescribed number of hours for the single subjects is complied with. The school year begins between the 2nd and the 4th week of September and finishes between the 1st and the 3rd week of June. The school adaptations of the school time should guarantee at least 200 days of lesson in the school year.

According to school autonomy, schools have up to 5 or 6 days available, which are foreseen for the suspension of educational activities.

LATVIA

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of students' school year	30 May 2014	30 May 2014
Autumn holidays	1 week 28 October – 1 November 2013	1 week 28 October – 1 November 2013
Christmas/New Year (Winter holidays)	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 3 January 2014	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 3 January 2014
Spring/Easter	1 week 17 – 21 March 2014	1 week 17 – 21 March 2014 24 – 28 March 2014 for pupils in 12 th grade
Third term	–	–
Summer	13 weeks 2 June – 29 August 2014	13 weeks 2 June – 29 August 2014
Public/religious holidays	18 November 2013 18 March 2014 21 March 2014 1 May 2014 4 May 2014 (transferred to 5 May)	18 November 2013 18 March 2014 21 March 2014 1 May 2014 4 May 2014 (transferred to 5 May)
Starting date of teachers' school year	See additional notes	See additional notes
End of teachers' school year	See additional notes	See additional notes

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

Lower secondary education (Basic education): end of the school year for the 9th class: 13 June 2014.

Upper secondary education: end of the school year for the 12th class: 20 June 2014.

The school year is divided in two semesters: the first from 2 September to 20 December 2013 and the second from 6 January to 30 May 2014 (or 13 June for the 9th class and 20 June for the 12th class).

Education institutions decide when to carry out an additional 1 week long holidays in the second semester for the 1st class.

Education institutions decide when to carry out a 1 week long project week in the second semester.

Extension of the school year for classes 1-8 and 10-11 may be made if specific circumstances hindering education process arise during the school year (e.g. extreme temperature, strike, emergency situation in school, etc.).

Holidays (summer 2014): These are the dates for the official summer holiday period for classes 1-8 and 10-11.

Public holidays: When the specific holidays of November 18 and May 4 fall on Saturday or Sunday, the holiday is transferred to the next working day.

Teachers: The teachers' school year concurs fully with students' year, but normally is longer and starts earlier, though the end and the start date is not defined officially. Teachers have the right to receive 8 weeks of paid annual leave in summer.

LIECHTENSTEIN

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year	
	Primary education and general secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	19 August 2013
End of students' school year	4 July 2014
Autumn holidays	2 weeks 5 – 20 October 2013
Christmas/New Year	2 weeks 21 December 2013 – 6 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	1 week 1 – 9 March 2014
Spring/Easter	2.5 weeks 17 April – 4 May 2014
Summer	6 weeks 5 July – 17 August 2014
Public/religious holidays	1 November 2013 – All Saints Day (<i>Allerheiligen</i>) 19 March 2014 – St. Josephs Day (<i>Josefitag</i>) 21 April 2014 – Easter Monday (<i>Ostern/Ostermontag</i>) 1 May 2014 – Labour Day (<i>Tag der Arbeit</i>) 29 – 30 May 2014 – Ascension Day (<i>Auffahrt</i>) 9 June 2014 – Whitsuntide/Whit Monday (<i>Pfingsten/Pfingsmontag</i>) 19 – 20 June 2014 – Corpus Christi (<i>Fronleichnam</i>)
Starting date of teachers' school year	19 August 2013
End of teachers' school year	4 July 2014

Source: Eurydice

http://www.llv.li/pdf-llv-sa-ferienkalender_0910_bis_1112.pdf

LITHUANIA

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	1 September 2013	1 September 2013
End of students' school year	30 May 2014	6 June 2014*
Autumn holidays	1 week 28 – 31 October 2013	1 week 28 – 31 October 2013
Christmas/New Year	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 3 January 2014	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 3 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	–	17 – 18 February 2014**
Spring/Easter	1 week 14 – 18 April 2014	1 week 14 – 18 April 2014
Third term	–	–
Summer	13 weeks 2 June – 31 August 2014	12 weeks 9 June – 31 August 2014***
Public/religious holidays	1 November 2013 16 February 2014 11 March 2014 1 May 2014	1 November 2013 16 February 2014 11 March 2014 1 May 2014
Starting date of teachers' school year	Following the general teaching plans and subject to the agreement of the school head and teacher	Following the general teaching plans and subject to the agreement of the school head and teacher
End of teachers' school year	Following the general teaching plans and subject to the agreement of the school head and teacher****	Following the general teaching plans and subject to the agreement of the school head and teacher****

Source: General Curriculum Framework for Primary and Secondary Education

Additional notes:

* The end of students' school year in grade 5 (first year of lower secondary education) is on 30 May 2014 and grade 12 (last year of upper secondary education) is on 29 May 2014.

** Additional 2-week holidays are allocated to pupils of grades 1 to 5. It is required that the school agreed additional holidays with parents and school council. At national level it is recommended that additional holidays would coincide with 6-12 grades winter holidays.

*** Summer holidays for students in grade 5 start on 2 June 2014 and grade 12 – 30 May 2014.

**** The annual amount of leave for **teachers** is legislated as 56 calendar days. Normally, it is recommended that teachers take their annual leave during school summer holidays (i.e. teachers' leave is normally determined by the school calendar).

LUXEMBOURG

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	16 September 2013	16 September 2013
End of students' school year	15 July 2014	15 July 2014
Autumn holidays	1 week 26 October – 3 November 2013	1 week 26 October – 3 November 2013
Christmas/New Year	2 weeks 21 December 2013 – 5 January 2014	2 weeks 21 December 2013 – 5 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	1 week 15 – 23 February 2014	1 week 15 – 23 February 2014
Spring/Easter	2 weeks 5 – 21 April 2014	2 weeks 5 – 21 April 2014
Third term	1 week 7 – 15 June 2014	1 week 7 – 15 June 2014
Summer	8 weeks 16 July – 14 September 2014	8 weeks 16 July – 14 September 2014
Public/religious holidays	1 May 2014 29 May 2014	1 May 2014 29 May 2014
Starting date of teachers' school year	16 September 2013	16 September 2013
End of teachers' school year	15 July 2014	15 July 2014

Source: Eurydice.

MALTA

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	23 September 2013	23 September 2013
End of students' school year	27 June 2014	27 June 2014
Autumn holidays	1, 4 November 2013	1, 4 November 2013
Christmas / New Year	23 December 2013 – 6 January 2014	23 December 2013 – 6 January 2014
Winter / Carnival	3 – 4 March 2014	3 – 4 March 2014
Spring / Easter	16 – 23 April 2014	16 – 23 April 2014
Third term	24 April – 27 June 2014	24 April – 27 June 2014
Summer	30 June – 19 September 2014	30 June – 19 September 2014
Public / religious holidays	13 December 2013 10 February 2014 19 March 2014 31 March 2014 1 May 2014	13 December 2013 10 February 2014 19 March 2014 31 March 2014 1 May 2014
Starting date of teachers' school year	19 September 2013	19 September 2013
End of teachers' school year	4 July 2014	4 July 2014

Additional notes:

Half-yearly examinations take place between 18 and 21 February 2014 for primary school pupils and between 11 and 21 February 2014 for secondary school students.

The Annual Examinations take place between 24 and 26 June 2014 for primary school pupils and between 12 and 26 June 2014 for secondary school students.

Students of Year 6 in primary schools sit for End-of-Primary Benchmark Assessments held between 28 and 30 May (oral components) and between 2 and 4 June 2014 (for the written components).

Teachers are required to attend in-service training (INSET) for three days either prior to the beginning of the school year or immediately at the end of the school year. This training is held on 16, 17 and 18 September 2013 and on 7, 8 and 9 July 2014.

Teachers who attend INSET courses in September 2013 start their school year on 16 September 2013. Teachers who attend INSET courses in July 2014 end their school year on 9 July 2014.

During the month of June schools are on half-days.

MONTENEGRO

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of students' school year	13 June 2014 Note: for the students of grade 9, the end of the school year is 20 May 2014	13 June 2014
Winter	25 December 2013 – 27 January 2014	25 December 2013 – 27 January 2014
Summer	16 June – 31 August 2014	16 June – 31 August 2014 Note: for the students in vocational education having a professional internship (10-15 days), the summer vacation begins after the end of practice.
Public holidays (national/religious/occasional)	1 May 2014 (International Labour Day) 18 – 22 April 2014 (Easter) 21 May 2014 (Independence Day)	1 May 2014 (International Labour Day) 18 – 22 April 2014 (Easter) 21 May 2014 (Independence Day)
Starting date of teachers' school year	11 August 2013	11 August 2013
End of teachers' school year	5 July 2014	5 July 2014

Source: Eurydice.

NORWAY

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	Between 14 and 19 August 2013	Between 14 and 19 August 2013
End of students' school year	19 or 20 June 2014	19 or 20 June 2014
Autumn holidays	1 week (some just 2 days) Between 30 September and 11 October 2013	1 week (some just 2 days) Between 30 September and 11 October 2013
Christmas/New Year	Around 2 weeks 20 December 2013 – 2/6 January 2014	Around 2 weeks 20 December 2013 – 2/6 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	1 week Between 17 February and 7 March 2014	1 week Between 17 February and 7 March 2014
Spring/Easter	8 or 9 days Between 14 and 21/22 April 2014	8 or 9 days Between 14 and 21/22 April 2014
Third term	–	–
Summer	Around 8 weeks Between 19/20 June and 14/18 August 2014	Around 8 weeks Between 19/20 June and 14/18 August 2014
Public/religious holidays	1 May 2014 (Labour Day) 29 May 2014 (Ascension Day) 9 June 2014 (Whit Monday)	1 May 2014 (Labour Day) 29 May 2014 (Ascension Day) 9 June 2014 (Whit Monday)
Starting date of teachers' school year	See additional note	See additional note
End of teachers' school year	See additional note	See additional note

Source: KS/ Eurydice

Additional notes:

For the primary schools can the municipality decide individually the school holidays, as the counties can decide for the upper secondary schools.

The teachers' work during the school year is counted in working hours. That is 1 300 hours for primary education (ISCED 1), 1 225 hours for lower secondary education (ISCED 2) and 1 150 hours for upper secondary education. It is an individual matter for each school if the work hours, longer than for the students, are before the beginning or after the end of the school year.

POLAND

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of students' school year	27 June 2014	27 June 2014
Autumn holidays	–	–
Christmas/New Year	23 – 31 December 2013	23 – 31 December 2013
Winter/Carnival	2 weeks depending to the regions: 20 January – 2 February 2014 Lubelskie Łódzkie Podkarpackie Pomorskie Śląskie 27 January – 9 February 2014 Podlaskie Warmińsko-Mazurskie 3 February – 16 February 2014 Kujawsko-Pomorskie Lubuskie Małopolskie Świętokrzyskie Wielkopolskie 17 February – 2 March 2013 Dolnośląskie Mazowieckie Opolskie Zachodniopomorskie	2 weeks depending to the regions: 20 January – 2 February 2014 Lubelskie Łódzkie Podkarpackie Pomorskie Śląskie 27 January – 9 February 2014 Podlaskie Warmińsko-Mazurskie 3 February – 16 February 2014 Kujawsko-Pomorskie Lubuskie Małopolskie Świętokrzyskie Wielkopolskie 17 February – 2 March 2013 Dolnośląskie Mazowieckie Opolskie Zachodniopomorskie
Spring/ Easter	17 – 22 April 2014	17 – 22 April 2014
Third term	–	–
Summer	28 June – 31 August 2014	28 June – 31 August 2014
Public/religious holidays	1 November 2013 11 November 2013 1 January 2014 6 January 2014 1 – 3 May 2014 19 June 2014	1 November 2013 11 November 2013 1 January 2014 6 January 2014 1 – 3 May 2014 19 June 2014
Starting date of teachers' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of teachers' school year	27 June 2014	27 June 2014

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

In addition, the school head has the possibility to determine some extra days off (up to 6 days for primary schools, basic vocational schools, post-secondary schools, continuous education institutions; up to 8 days for lower secondary schools; up to 10 days for upper secondary schools) that may be devoted to external tests and exams and/or religious festivals not being registered as official public holidays.

Teacher holiday period altogether is 47 days. The school head may oblige a teacher to work for the benefit of their school for 7 days over their summer or winter holidays. In addition, during the summer holidays teachers carry out tasks related to recruitment and exam procedures.

PORTUGAL

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	Between 12 and 16 September 2013	Between 12 and 16 September 2013
End of students' school year*	6 June 2014 (grade 6) 13 June 2014 (grades 1-3, 5) Between 6 and 13 June 2014 for grade 4	6 June 2014 (grades 9, 11, 12) 13 June 2014 (grades 7, 8, 10)
First term	12/16 September – 17 December 2013	12/16 September – 17 December 2013
Christmas/New Year	18 December 2013 – 3 January 2014	18 December 2013 – 3 January 2014
Second term	6 January – 4 April 2014	6 January – 4 April 2014
Winter/Carnival	3 – 5 March 2014	3 – 5 March 2014
Spring/Easter	7 – 21 April 2014	7 – 21 April 2014
Third term*	22 April – 6/13 June 2014	22 April – 6/13 June 2014
Summer*	About 12 weeks Beginning between 6 and 13 June until mid-September 2014	About 12 weeks Beginning on 6 or 13 June until mid-September 2014
Public/religious holidays	25 April 2014 1 May 2014 10 June 2014 (+ holidays at municipal level)	25 April 2014 1 May 2014 10 June 2014 (+ holidays at municipal level)
Starting date of teachers' school year**	See additional notes	See additional notes
End of teachers' school year**	See additional notes	See additional notes

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

* The end of the year for pupils in grades 4 and 6 having extra support is 4 July 2014 (Normative Dispatch No. 24-A/2012)

** The official teachers' school year lasts from 1 September to 31 August. Teachers have the right to take summer holidays between the end of pupils' school year and the beginning of the following school year.

ROMANIA

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	16 September 2013	16 September 2013
End of students' school year	20 June 2014	20 June 2014
Autumn holidays	2 – 10 November 2013	-
Christmas/New Year	21 December 2013 – 5 January 2014	21 December 2013 – 5 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	1 – 9 February 2014	1 – 9 February 2014
Spring/Easter	12 – 22 April 2014	12 – 22 April 2014
Third term	-	-
Summer	21 June – 14 September 2014	21 June – 14 September 2014
Public/religious holidays	1 May 2014 9 June 2014	1 May 2014 9 June 2014
Starting date of teachers' school year	1 September 2013	1 September 2013
End of teachers' school year	31 August 2014	31 August 2014

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

1. The schools and the School Inspectorates shall mark with specific events the following days:

- 5 October 2013 = World Teachers' Day
- 5 June 2014 = Primary Teacher's Day

2. The week 7 – 11 April 2014 in the second semester is dedicated to extracurricular and extra-school activities, within the programme "*Other kind of school: Know more, Be better!*" [*Şcoala altfel: Să ştii mai multe, să fii mai bun!*"], with a specific timetable.

3. In exceptional situations, depending on the local climatic conditions and school's specificity, the organisation of the school year can be modified at the request of schools, approved by the regional education authorities (County School Inspectorate). Approval is given if the number of 176 school days (36 weeks) is maintained and all pupils may participate without restrictions in national examinations.

SLOVAKIA

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of students' school year	27 June 2014	27 June 2014
Autumn holidays	3 days 30 October – 1 November 2013	3 days 30 October – 1 November 2013
Christmas/New Year	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 7 January 2014	2 weeks 23 December 2013 – 7 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	3 February 2014 1 week according to the regions: 17 – 21 February 2014 Banska Bystrica, Žilina, Trenčín 24 – 28 February 2014 Bratislava, Nitra, Trnava 3 – 7 March 2014 Košice, Prešov	3 February 2014 1 week according to the regions: 17 – 21 February 2014 Banska Bystrica, Žilina, Trenčín 24 – 28 February 2014 Bratislava, Nitra, Trnava 3 – 7 March 2014 Košice, Prešov
Spring/Easter	17 – 22 April 2014	17 – 22 April 2014
Summer	9 weeks 30 June – 29 August 2014	9 weeks 30 June – 29 August 2014
Public/religious holidays	1 May 2014 8 May 2014	1 May 2014 8 May 2014
Starting date of teachers' school year	Usually one week before beginning of the school year	Usually one week before beginning of the school year
End of teachers' school year	Usually, one week after summer holidays begin	Usually, one week after summer holidays begin

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

Official school year: 1 September to 31 August. If 2 September is Friday, Saturday or Sunday starting date of school year is next Monday.

Following the Labour Code, teachers and head teachers of schools at primary and secondary levels have 8 weeks of holidays per calendar year. They take it during the holidays. Usually, teachers work one week after beginning of summer holidays and one week before the beginning of the school year.

SLOVENIA

Organisation of school time in single structure education and general upper secondary education 2013/14 school year

	Single structure education	General upper secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of students' school year	24 June 2014 13 June 2014 (final grade)	24 June 2014 27 May 2014 (final grade)
Autumn holidays	1 week 28 October – 1 November 2013	1 week 28 October – 1 November 2013
Christmas/New Year	1 week 24 December 2013 – 1 January 2014	1 week 24 December 2013 – 1 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	1 week 17 – 21 February 2014 (Western region) 24 – 28 February 2014 (Eastern region)	1 week 17 – 21 February 2013 (Western region) 24 – 28 February 2014 (Eastern region)
Spring holiday	1 week 28 April – 2 May 2014	1 week 28 April – 2 May 2014
Summer holidays	10 weeks 25 June – 31 August 2014	10 weeks 25 June – 31 August 2014
Public/religious holidays	8 February 2014 (<i>Prešern</i> Day – Day of Slovene Culture) 21 April 2014 (Easter Monday)	8 February 2014 (<i>Prešern</i> Day – Day of Slovene Culture) 21 April 2014 (Easter Monday)
Starting date of teachers' school year	10-15 days before the starting date of the students' school year	10-15 days before the starting date of the students' school year
End of teachers' school year	Beginning to mid-July 2014	Beginning to mid-July 2014

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

Slovenia has a single structure compulsory school of nine years with no split into stages.

The students' school year officially lasts from 1 September to 31 August, however, the lessons end in June.

Teachers' school year starts 10-15 days before the students' school year and lasts until the beginning or mid-July. The precise length depends on the individually allocated days of annual leave (from 22 to 35 days) and tasks and obligations appointed by the school head.

SPAIN

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year ^(1, 2)		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	Between 5 and 13 September 2013	Between 6 and 17 September 2013
End of students' school year	Between 19 and 23 June 2014	Between 19 and 26 June ⁽³⁾ 2014
Autumn holidays	-	-
Christmas/New Year	At least 2 weeks between 23 December 2013 and 7 January 2014	At least 2 weeks between 23 December 2013 and 7 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	Between 2 and 3 days (depending on the Autonomous Community) ⁽⁴⁾	Between 2 and 3 (depending on the Autonomous Community) ⁽⁴⁾
Spring/Easter	About 10 days between the third and the fourth week of April 2014	About 10 days between the third and the fourth week of April 2014
Third term	-	-
Summer	11 weeks between late June and mid-September	11-12 weeks between late June and mid-September
Public/religious holidays	12 public holidays (some common to the whole country and some specific of the different Autonomous Communities).	12 public holidays (some common to the whole country and some specific of the different Autonomous Communities).
Starting date of teachers' school year	1 September 2013	1 September 2013
End of teachers' school year	30 June 2014	30 June 2014

Additional notes:

⁽¹⁾ Dates vary according to the different Autonomous Communities, see the table below.

⁽²⁾ The total minimum number of school days is 175 in primary, lower and upper secondary education in all Autonomous Communities.

⁽³⁾ In the last year of post-compulsory upper general secondary education, classes finish two or three weeks earlier than in other stages. This time is meant for preparing entrance examinations to universities.

⁽⁴⁾ In the different Autonomous Communities, the education authorities allocate a certain number of days (between 3 and 6) for Carnival, bank holidays or other free days or grant freedom to schools to allocate these days along the whole school year at their convenience.

SPAIN (CONTINUED)

Specification of terms for the starting and the end of students' school year 2013/14 in the different Autonomous Communities

	Primary education		General secondary education ⁽¹⁾	
	Beginning (2013)	End (2014)	Beginning (2013)	End (2014)
Andalucía	10 September	22/23 June	16 September	23/24 June
Aragón	11 September	20 June	11 September (lower secondary students in primary education schools) 16 September (lower secondary) 19 September (upper secondary)	25 June
Asturias	12 September	19 June	16 September	23 June
Baleares	13 September	20 June	13 September	20 June
Canarias	9 September	20 June	11 September	20 June
Cantabria	12 September	20 June	18 September	25 June
Castilla y León	10 September	20 June	10 September (lower secondary students in primary education schools) 17 September (lower and upper secondary)	20 June
Castilla-La Mancha	10 September	18 June	16 September	25 June
Cataluña	12 September	20 June	13 September	20 June
Ceuta	10 September	20 June	10 September	20 June
Extremadura	12 September	20 June	12 September	20 June
Galicia	11 September	20 June	16 September	20 June
La Rioja	9 September	23 June	12 September	26 June
Madrid	9 September	20 June	10 September (first year of lower secondary) 11 September (rest of secondary education)	20 June
Melilla	10 September	20 June	10 September 12 September (upper secondary)	20 June
Murcia	9 September	19 June	13 September	25 June
Navarra ⁽²⁾	Not before 9 September	Not later than 19 June	Not before 9 September	Not later than 19 June
País Vasco ⁽²⁾	Not before 5 September	Not later than 20 June	Not before 6 September	Not later than 20 June
C. Valenciana	9 September	20 June	16 September	20 June

Additional notes:

(¹) In the last year of post-compulsory upper general secondary education, classes end up two or three weeks earlier than in the rest of stages. This time is used to prepare the university entrance examinations.

(²) In these Autonomous Communities schools are free to establish their own calendar taking into account the limit starting and ending dates established by the educational authorities.

Source: School calendars of the 17 Autonomous Communities and the Autonomous Cities of Ceuta and Melilla.

SWEDEN

Organisation of school time in compulsory education (*grundskola*) and in general upper secondary education (*gymnasieskola*) 2013/14 school year

	Single structure compulsory education (<i>grundskola</i>)	General upper secondary education (<i>gymnasieskola</i>)
Starting date of students' school year	Late in August	Late in August
End of students' school year	Mid-June	Mid-June
According to the Compulsory School Ordinance and the Upper secondary School Ordinance, a school year consists of at least 178 school days and at least 17 holidays – the exact dates vary on regional and municipality level.		
Autumn holidays	28 October – 1 November 2013	28 October – 1 November 2013
Christmas/New Year	Start between 18 – 20 December 2013 End between 7 – 10 January 2014	Start between 18 – 20 December 2013 End between 7 – 10 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	One week between 10 February – 7 March 2014	One week between 10 February – 7 March 2014
Spring/Easter	One week between 14 – 25 April 2014	One week between 14 – 25 April 2014
Summer	About 10 weeks	About 10 weeks
Public/religious holidays	18 April 2014 (Good Friday) 21 April 2014 (Easter Monday) 1 May 2014 (Labour Day) 29 May 2014 (Ascension Day) 6 June 2014 (the National Day)	18 April 2014 (Good Friday) 21 April 2014 (Easter Monday) 1 May 2014 (Labour Day) 29 May 2014 (Ascension Day) 6 June 2014 (the National Day)
Starting date of teachers' school year	Mid-August	Mid-August
End of teachers' school year	Mid-June	Mid-June

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

Sweden has a single structure compulsory school (9 years) with no differences between stages. Starting and finishing dates vary on regional and municipality levels, dates here are indicative.

Teachers usually start their work earlier for planning etc. Continuous professional development (CPD) is the responsibility of the employer and it can take place when the pupils are in school or not.

SWITZERLAND

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	Between 12 August and 2 September 2013	Between 12 August and 2 September 2013
End of students' school year	Between 18 June and 18 July 2014	Between 18 June and 18 July 2014
Autumn holidays	1-3 weeks Between 21 September and 3 November 2013	1-3 weeks Between 21 September and 3 November 2013
Christmas/New Year	1-2 weeks Between 21 December 2013 and 5 January 2014	1-2 weeks Between 21 December 2013 and 5 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	1-2 weeks Between 25 January and 16 March 2014	1-2 weeks Between 25 January and 16 March 2014
Spring/Easter	1-2 weeks Between 3 April and 18 May 2014	1-2 weeks Between 3 April and 18 May 2014
Third term	-	-
Summer	5-10 weeks Between 18 June and 31 August 2014	5-10 weeks Between 18 June and 31 August 2014
Public/religious holidays	1 August 2013 9 June 2014	1 August 2013 9 June 2014
Starting date of teachers' school year	1 August 2013	1 August 2013
End of teachers' school year	31 July 2014	31 July 2014

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

According to Switzerland's federal structure, the starting date / end of students' school year (for details see table I) and school holidays vary between cantons, in some cantons even between municipalities (for details see table II).

With a few exceptions the teachers' official school year starts 1 August and ends on 31 July. However, it is at the school's discretion to decide whether teachers are expected to start or end later (in order to attend meetings, to prepare for teaching, etc.).

The only national holiday is 1 August (National Day). All other public and religious holidays are fixed by the cantons. New Year's Day, Ascension and Christmas Day are the only holidays all cantons have in common. In most cantons Good Friday, Easter Monday, Whit Monday and Boxing Day are also official holidays.

SWITZERLAND (CONTINUED)

TABLE I: Specification for starting/end of students' school year and summer holidays

Canton	Beginning of students' school year 2013/14	End of students' school year 2013/14	Summer holidays 2014
Aargau	12 August 2013	18 July 2014	19 July – 10 August
Appenzell Innerrhoden*	19 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 17 August
Appenzell Ausserrhoden	12 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 10 August
Bern*	12 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 17 August
Basel-Landschaft	12 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 17 August
Basel-Stadt	12 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 17 August
Fribourg*	22 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 31 August
Geneva	26 August 2013	27 June 2014	28 June – 24 August
Glarus	12 August 2013	27 June 2014	28 June – 10 August
Graubünden*	19 August 2013	27 June 2014	28 June – 17 August
Jura	19 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 17 August
Lucerne*	19 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 17 August
Neuchâtel	19 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 17 August
Nidwalden*	19 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 24 August
Obwalden*	19 August 2013	27 June 2014	28 June – 17 August
St. Gallen	12 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 10 August
Schaffhausen	12 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 10 August
Solothurn	12 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 10 August
Schwyz*	12 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 10 August
Thurgau	12 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 10 August
Ticino	2 September 2013	18 June 2014	19 June – 31 August
Uri*	19 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 17 August
Vaud	28 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 24 August
Valais*	19 August 2013	18 June 2014	19 June – 17 August
Zug	19 August 2013	4 July 2014	5 July – 17 August
Zurich*	19 August 2013	11 July 2014	12 July – 17 August

* With variation between regions / municipalities

SWITZERLAND (CONTINUED)

TABLE II: Specification of shorter holiday periods

Canton	Autumn 2013	Christmas / New Year 2013/14	Winter 2014	Spring / Easter 2014
Aargau*	28 Sept. – 13 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	variable	5 – 21 April
Appenzell Innerrhoden*	5 – 20 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	1 – 9 March	5 – 21 April
Appenzell Ausserrhoden	5 – 20 Oct.	24 Dec. – 5 Jan.	variable	5 – 21 April
Bern*	21 Sept. – 13 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	variable	5 – 21 April
Basel-Landschaft*	28 Sept. – 13 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	1 – 16 March	12 – 27 April
Basel-Stadt	28 Sept. – 10 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	1 – 16 March	17 – 27 April
Fribourg*	19 Oct. – 3 Nov.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	1 – 9 March	17 – 27 April
Geneva	19 – 27 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	15 – 23 Feb.	17 – 27 April
Glarus	5 – 20 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	25 Jan. – 2 Feb.	3 – 21 April
Graubünden*	5 – 20 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	22 Feb. – 2 March	12 – 27 April
Jura	5 – 20 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	8 – 16 Feb.	5 – 21 April
Lucerne*	28 Sept. – 13 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	22 Feb. – 9 March	18 April – 4 May
Neuchâtel	5 – 20 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	22 Feb. – 2 March	5 – 21 April
Nidwalden*	28 Sept. – 13 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	22 Feb. – 9 March	18 April – 4 May
Obwalden*	28 Sept. – 13 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	22 Feb. – 9 March	18 April – 4 May
St. Gallen	28 Sept – 20 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	variable	5 – 20 April
Schaffhausen	28 Sept – 20 Oct.	24 Dec. – 5 Jan.	25 Jan. – 9 Feb.	12 – 27 April
Solothurn*	28 Sept – 20 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	8 – 23 Feb.	5 – 23 April
Schwyz*	28 Sept. – 13 Oct.	24 Dec. – 6 Jan.	22 Feb. – 2 March	26 April – 11 May
Thurgau	5 – 20 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	25 Jan. – 2 Feb.	5 – 21 April
Ticino	26 Oct. – 3 Nov.	21 Dec. – 6 Jan.	1 – 9 March	18 – 27 April
Uri*	5 – 20 Oct.	21 Dec. – 6 Jan.	22 Feb. – 9 March	3 – 18 May
Vaud	12 – 27 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	21 Feb. – 3 March	11 – 27 April
Valais*	24 Oct. – 3 Nov.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	22 Feb. – 9 March	18 – 27 April
Zug	5 – 20 Oct.	21 Dec. – 5 Jan.	1 – 16 Feb.	12 – 27 April
Zurich*	5 – 20 Oct.	23 Dec. – 5 Jan.	8 – 23 Feb.	19 April – 4 May

* With variation between regions / municipalities

TURKEY

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	16 September 2013 1st Grade: 9 September 2013	16 September 2013
End of students' school year	13 June 2014	13 June 2014
Christmas/New Year	1 January 2014	1 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	2 weeks 27 January – 7 February 2014	2 weeks 27 January – 7 February 2014
Summer	13 weeks 13 June 2014 – 15 September 2014	13 weeks 13 June 2014 – 15 September 2014
Public/religious holidays	15-18 October 2013 (religious holiday) 29 October 2013 (Republic Day) 23 April 2014 (Children's Day) 1 May 2014 (Labour Day) 19 May 2014 (Youth and Sport Day)	15-18 October 2013 (religious holiday) 29 October 2013 (Republic Day) 23 April 2014 (Children's Day) 1 May 2014 (Labour Day) 19 May 2014 (Youth and Sport Day)
Starting date of teachers' school year	Beginning September	Beginning September
End of teachers' school year	Beginning July	Beginning July

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

For primary and general secondary education, a school year must be not less than 180 days. A school year runs 9 months from September to June.

A school year is divided into two parts: at the end of a semester, there is a two-week holiday, called mid-school year holiday. The summer holidays are between June and September. Decisions on ending/starting semester dates are made by the Ministry.

Source: The work schedule of Ministry of National Education.

UNITED KINGDOM – ENGLAND AND WALES

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	The first week of September 2013	The first week of September 2013
End of students' school year	Between 21 and 23 July 2014	Between 21 and 23 July 2014
Autumn holidays	1 week 28 October – 1 November 2013	1 week 28 October – 1 November 2013
Christmas/New Year	2 weeks Between 23 December 2013 and Friday 3 January 2014	2 weeks Between 23 December 2013 and Friday 3 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	1 week Either 17 – 21 February 2014 or 24 – 28 February 2014	1 week Either 17 – 21 February 2014 or 24 – 28 February 2014
Spring/Easter	2 weeks Either 7 – 21 April 2014 or 14 – 25 April 2014	2 weeks Either 7 – 21 April 2014 or 14 – 25 April 2014
Third term	1 week 26 – 30 May 2014	1 week 26 – 30 May 2014
Summer	6 weeks Between 21 July and the first week of September 2014	6 weeks Between 21 July and the first week of September 2014
Public/religious holidays	15 October 2013 – Eid-ul-Adha (some schools – see note) 5 May 2014 – early May Bank Holiday	15 October 2013 – Eid-ul-Adha (some schools – see note) 5 May 2014 – early May Bank Holiday
Starting date of teachers' school year	The first week of September 2013	The first week of September 2013
End of teachers' school year	Between 21 and 23 July 2014	Between 21 and 23 July 2014

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes: Traditionally, the school year is divided into three terms, each of which is divided into two half terms separated by a half term holiday. The dates of school holidays are normally planned to take into account and cover most national public holidays including Easter, although a minority of schools operate a standardised year.

The length of the school year, 380 half day sessions, is laid down centrally but the actual dates are not. These are set, depending on the legal category of the school, by the local authority (LA) or school governing body. The decision is taken at school level in voluntary aided schools and foundation schools. Otherwise LAs regulate the school year, and the table shows the most common patterns for term dates and holidays set by LAs.

Teachers are required to be available for five additional days when pupils are not present, i.e. for 195 days in total.

In England, the recent growth in the number of academies means that approximately 70 per cent of secondary and 30 per cent of primary schools in England are responsible for setting their own term dates. Academies and free schools also have responsibility for determining the length of their school year. (Source: [Department for Education](#).)

Some English local authorities have recommended that schools with a significant number of pupils who will be celebrating the Muslim feast of Eid-ul-Adha (15 October 2013) should consider the potential impact of the feast on pupil attendance when determining their occasional days.

UNITED KINGDOM – NORTHERN IRELAND

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2012/13 school year

	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of students' school year	30 June 2014	30 June 2014
Autumn holidays	2 days 31 October – 1 November 2013	2 days 31 October – 1 November 2013
Christmas/New Year	1.5 weeks 23 December 2013 – 1 January 2014	1.5 weeks 23 December 2013 – 1 January 2014
Winter/Carnival	2 days 17 – 18 February 2014	2 days 17 – 18 February 2014
Spring/Easter	1.5 weeks 17 – 25 April 2014	1.5 weeks 17 – 25 April 2014
Third term	–	–
Summer	9 weeks Between 1 July and the first week of September 2014	9 weeks Between 1 July and the first week of September 2014
Public/religious holidays	17 March 2014 – St Patrick's Day (not all schools) 5 May 2014 – early May Bank Holiday 26 May 2014 – late May Bank Holiday	17 March 2014 – St Patrick's Day (not all schools) 5 May 2014 – early May Bank Holiday 26 May 2014 – late May Bank Holiday
Starting date of teachers' school year	2 September 2013	2 September 2013
End of teachers' school year	30 June 2014	30 June 2014

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes: Schools are required to be in operation for 200 days minus five optional days, leaving a total of 195 operational days. The provision for optional days is designed to cover closings for reasons that might arise throughout the year, for example the death of a person connected with the school, the need to move premises, the start of building work at the school or church holy days. These optional days are therefore likely to differ from school to school.

Teachers must attend for training and development purposes on 5 days, designated as School Development Days, on which schools are closed to pupils.

UNITED KINGDOM – SCOTLAND

Organisation of school time in primary and general secondary education 2013/14 school year		
	Primary education	General secondary education
Starting date of students' school year	Mid-August 2013	Mid-August 2013
End of students' school year	End June/early July 2014	End June/early July 2014
Autumn holidays	All schools will take from 1 to 2 weeks between 7 and 25 October 2013 and some will also take from 1 to 2 days in September 2013	All schools will take from 1 to 2 weeks between 7 and 25 October 2013 and some will also take from 1 to 2 days in September 2013
Christmas/New Year	Around 2 weeks between 23 December 2013 to 6 January 2014	Around 2 weeks between 23 December 2013 to 6 January 2013
Winter/Carnival	From 1 day to 1 week between 10 and 21 February 2014	From 1 day to 1 week between 10 and 21 February 2014
Spring/Easter	About 2 weeks between 31 March and 18 April 2014	About 2 weeks between 31 March and 18 April 2014
Summer mid-term holidays	Generally schools will take at least 1 day on 5 May 2014 but some schools will also take up to 3 days between 5 May and 2 June 2014	Generally schools will take at least 1 day on 5 May 2014 but some schools will also take up to 3 days between 5 May and 2 June 2014
Summer	End June/early July 2014	End June/early July 2014
Public/religious holidays	Up to 3 days	Up to 3 days
Starting date of teachers' school year	Mid-August 2013	Mid-August 2013
End of teachers' school year	End June/early July 2014	End June/early July 2014

Source: Eurydice

Additional notes:

In Scotland, pupils attend school for 190 days a year. The teachers' school year is longer by 5 in-service days (195 days).

As school holidays (and in-service days) are not fixed nationally, but by each of the 32 local education authorities, term dates vary from one authority to another. There are no differences between primary and secondary schools.

